

February 19, 2002

Akin Joins DaimlerChrysler Rally

Rally focused on opposing increased CAFE standards and saving jobs

St. Louis, Mo- Today, Congressman Todd Akin joined with hundreds of employees from the DaimlerChrysler plant, UAW teams from the Ford Motor Company and General Motors facilities, management from these plants and leaders from the Chamber of Commerce. The rally focused on opposing attempts to increase the Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards.

Akin has voted against and the U.S. House of Representatives has defeated attempts to attach CAFE standard increases on the comprehensive energy bill. The proposed increases would dramatically impact local automobile production and adversely impact the health of the Missouri economy. The Senate is expected to consider a version of the energy bill including the increased CAFE standards when Congress returns from its President's Day work week.

"The House has passed a responsible energy bill, one that won't put Missourians out of work," said Akin. "We have not repealed current standards, but I and my colleagues have stood up for a common sense approach to balancing environmental and economic concerns."

"Americans have a right to make their own choices in weighing the benefits of convenience, safety and fuel economy," said Akin. "The energy bill passed by the House of Representatives will help develop alternative fuels, decrease our dependence on foreign oil and help put Americans back to work."